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### **PIVOTAL POINT**

Of all the plans we make for accomplishing our goals, the real determining factor to our success seems to hinge on learning to make right choices. Life is made up of countless practice moments that repeat until we reach the pivotal point and instinctively know the best path to take for reaching our destiny.

At the beginning of time God said, “*Behold, the man has become like one us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat and live forever...*” God never finished His thought because He refused to curse what He made. Instead He creates a gap in time as a miraculous moment or holy instant that enters the NOW of God. Man’s history begins as a gap in eternity—a juncture in time that stresses the significant agreement and convergence of events to fulfill His plan for salvation.

Our choices shape our character and define our purpose. God does great feats in and through men who recognize defining moments and courageously choose to stand in righteousness. If we learn to recognize these moments for their potential then we likewise learn to transcend time by the choices we make—“doing the right thing, at the right time, for the right reason, in the right way and in the right place.”

How can we remain imprisoned by our thoughts—unless we forget or are ignorant that we have freedom to choose how we respond or react in every situation. Every attitude and expression is of our choosing. There may be times when we are unable to do exactly as we please, yet we always have the liberty to think as we please. The rift in time first occurred in the Garden but is continually breached by every right decision.

God says, “*Surely, as I have thought, so it shall come to pass, and as I have purposed, so it shall stand.*” Everything God determines comes to pass and everything He creates has purpose. Most of us walk through life never fulfilling our destiny because we do not comprehend that God has a distinct purpose for us. Unless we become part of His plan,

we never reach our destiny. It is the awareness of the spiritual gap or juncture that allows us to manifest the finished works of Christ—things destined for us to accomplish.

A breaking point is the moment in time that matter changes form. We survive a severe test to be transformed; coming to the end of ourselves, to our wits end, the old vessel broke as the new man emerged—born again. It was at the breaking point that our spirit resonated with God and not only do we become one with Him in purpose but we step through the gap to walk in eternity.

Usually a breaking point deals with the deliverance from a particular fear that had rule in our life. Whatever is of weakness is set free from the influence of the law of sin and death. Fearlessness is an awesome liberator because it allows us to progress into a higher dimension of grace—no longer captive to the things that once controlled us.

A sudden advance in knowledge or proficiency is called a breakthrough—a moment in time that radically alters our perception. It is an instant awakening that is not gained by accumulated knowledge or practicing skills but by breaking through the shadowy veil into more light. The spiritual realm always existed but at a precise moment we overcame the opposition or hindrance—stepping through the barrier of the natural to walk in the supernatural Kingdom.

A breakthrough does not come from considering impossibility, not looking for what's wrong but for what is right. A breakthrough may occur in our perception, ability or skill. A breakthrough allows us to swim better or run faster—not necessarily through something we do as much as entering into a new level of grace that manifests greater beauty of perfection. We advanced through the gap continuum to another dimension. Something changes in our future by what we seized at that moment in time and the connection empowers us, catapulting us into a new realm of existence to think and behave differently.

What we need for a successful breakthrough is already prepared for us and awaits manifestation. A breakthrough moment actually brings us to our purpose—bringing an understanding of how we are to better function in the will of God. Our personal expression of His purpose is the manifestation of pure love in action.

We can cite many turning points in our life—events, situations or words that changed the course of our lives. Yet it is the inclusion of everything that ever happened to us that leads up to a pivotal point. It literally connects our function and purpose to our destiny. A breakthrough moment advances our purpose but a pivotal point is the juncture in time that stands out as connecting us to destiny. Our entire life was to bring us to this moment and with this one step we cross the threshold of time to walk in our eternal destiny.

The Spirit constantly reveals His will for us with the same intensity as with the great men and women of the Bible. The pivotal point of their lives usually involved a test or trial that determined their future course and ultimate destiny. One illustration of God's faithfulness regardless of man's fears is evidenced in the conflict experienced by the Prophet Jonah.

Jonah feared God would relent from doing harm to Nineveh and deliberately chose not to heed His Word. He removed himself as far as possible, not only from being under God's influence but also from the place where he could fulfill His Word. Jonah did not recognize the moment as a pivotal point in his life—choosing rather to renounce his office as prophet and flee the country.

At every turn our lives are filled with Words from God and we may feel guilty for not recognizing them. Even if we do realize that these are signs and directions from God, we may not always know what we should do. Yet, as with Jonah—God keeps talking to us until we do understand and make the right choice. It is all part of our schooling in the spiritual. He is the Great Teacher and wants us to learn. If we attune ourselves spiritually we will eventually recognize the pivotal point in our life.

God sent a mighty tempest after Jonah to bring him back to fulfill his purpose. The ship he was on was in danger of being broken so the sailors cast lots to know whose god was causing the evil against them. After hearing Jonah's testimony they asked Jonah what they could do to turn the wrath of Almighty God away from their ship. Only after much consternation and many failed attempts to reach land did they finally listen to Jonah and throw him overboard. The sea immediately ceased from its raging *and the men were greatly terrified from the presence of the Lord and offered sacrifices of righteousness to the Lord and made vows.*

*“NOW the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah.”* After three days in the belly of the great fish, he came to a breaking point—Jonah no longer preferred his will but vowed to do God's. Jonah entered the NOW time of God and things miraculously worked out for good. His prayer finds a juncture in time and he knows that beyond the current peril he will again see the Temple of God.

God keeps speaking until we hear Him. The Scripture says that the Word of the Lord came again to Jonah. Once more God ordered Jonah to go to Nineveh and make a proclamation against the City. This time Jonah is obedient to the Word and spoke, *“Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!”* *So the people of Nineveh believed God, proclaimed a fast ... Even the King believed. Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way, and God relented from the disaster that He had said He would bring upon them, and He did not do it.*

It is ironic that Jonah's name means 'dove' the symbol of 'mourning love' yet he doesn't mourn or pity Nineveh's destruction and is rather grieved that God does. God asks Jonah, *“Is it right for you to be angry?”* One translation says, *“Are you very sorrowful?”* God questions his motivation—are you mournful?

God uses a natural occurrence to bring a breakthrough to change Jonah's perception of the situation in Nineveh. He commands a gourd plant to shade Jonah's head and comfort him in his grief. *Jonah was very grateful for the plant.* But God also commanded a worm to damage the plant and an east wind to wither it. Jonah wearied and wished that he might die. God asks Jonah if he was grieved over the plant and Jonah said he was exceedingly grieved. God's interpretation became a pivotal point for Jonah. God says, *“You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night. And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city,*

*in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and the left?”*

Evidence of what happened to Jonah after this was virtually unknown until late in the last century. Archeologists excavating in the region uncovered the grave of Jonah outside the gates to the ancient city of Nineveh. Apparently he returned to the City after his conversation with God and continued to minister and became enamored with them. Once Jonah forgave the people of Nineveh, he discovered the events were really a pivotal point in reaching his destiny. The Northern Iraqis still revere the site.

Although each of us possesses a specific portion in the plan of God, yet many labor separately in different churches, in different ministries and with different motives because they do not see their connection with the Body. Is it possible that the concentration of His Spirit and the convergence of His power come together in our day to finally close the gap that was breached in the Garden? This juncture in time may very well be the pivotal point that hinges the restoration of all things as Ezekiel prophesied in the valley of dry bones. Some renounce their calling and flee the country forgetting that God always catches up with them. We choose to fulfill purpose fully aware of the pivotal point—our destiny to fearlessly advance as one mighty army in Christ!

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